

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

62.73

Import Division

Recorded JUL 20 1927



BETTER PLANTS



God's first gift to man was a Beautiful Garden

VOLUME V

APRIL—MAY, 1927

NUMBER 2



On the farm in Holland where Farr's Tulip bulbs are grown. For 15 years our supply has come from one grower

JUST GARDENS

IT DOES not matter where they grow;
Their loveliness will be
A place where lonely souls may go
In lands of memory.

They may be stately, with a dial
To catch the sun's warm shine—
They may be tender as a smile,
Or as a Valentine.

They may show just a touch of green
Against some city wall;
And yet, to wistful hearts, they mean
Youth's wonder, and life's all.

Just gardens, rising from the sod
Like laughter, sweet in tone,
Like anthems, giving back to God
The dearest thing we own.

It does not matter, very much,
The spot in which they grow—
For we come closer, by their touch,
To One, Whose love we know.

—MARGARET E. SANGSTER
in *Christian Herald*

GREATLY PLEASED WITH NARCISSI AND LILACS

March 9, 1927.

BERTRAND H. FARR,
Weiser Park, Pa.

Last fall I bought from you the "Wordsworth" collection of Narcissi. I wish you could see the gorgeous display of the Narcissi I have in bloom now. I think there have been from two to four flowers from every one of the Barrii conspicuus bulbs, and the Emperor and Rugulosus are very large; a good many of them have two flowers from one bulb. The Poets and Empress have not bloomed, but are budding. Some of my Barrii conspicuus flowers are 3 to 4 inches across. I am highly pleased with them all and will have another order this fall.

The six French Hybrid Lilacs, purchased at the same time, have fine clusters of buds, some of them far enough advanced to be showing color. I am very anxious to see them. You know our springs are so early that all these flowers are gone here before they bloom with you.

Do you have a spring-blooming bulb called *Leucojum vernum*, or Spring Snowflake—a white bell-shaped flower with light green spots on the petals? I want to get some and have never found them in but one catalogue and that was misplaced so I don't know whose it was. When would be the best time to buy them?

Very truly yours,

MRS. HARRY E. KELLEY
Park Hill, 2122 S. W St., Ft. Smith, Ark.

Holland Bulb Essentials

Dutch bulbs are extremely modest in their cultural demands. Many of the old rules for bulb growing would lead an ordinary gardener to infer that success is concealed from ordinary mortals, and that certain rites must be followed if even ordinary results are to be secured. Not so, but there are certain simple cautions to be observed which will assure stronger growth and larger blooms.

What to Do in Fall

1. Light, rich, and well-drained soil is the best for bulbs. Add sand or ashes to clay soil, or clay to sandy soil. Do not use fresh manure. Bone-meal and sheep-manure are good. Prepare the beds before bulbs arrive.

2. Uniform depth of planting is essential for bedding purposes. Irregular depth of planting produces irregular bloom. Setting the bulbs in trenches, made with a hoe, is a good method.

3. Most important—be sure to plant to correct depth. Three times the diameter of the bulb is a safe and easy rule.

4. Do not apply top cover until ground is permanently frozen.

5. Ask for our circular on indoor forcing
(Concluded on page 3)

Tulips

The great variety of dazzling Tulips, in every conceivable color combination, makes them the most popular of the spring-flowering bulbs. By planting bulbs of the different classes, a display of bloom may be had for several weeks, beginning first with the early-flowering section and ending with the Darwins and Breeders. Even a dozen bulbs will make a brilliant corner in the garden. The test of quality in Tulips is *solidity* rather than size of the bulbs. We import the best grown.

SINGLE EARLY TULIPS

All varieties in this list may be used with equal success for bedding or for forcing. Stems 10 to 15 inches high. Bloom in late April. Plant 4 to 5 inches deep, 5 to 6 inches apart.

Six or more bulbs of one variety at the dozen rate; 25 or more at the 100 rate. Not less than 6 bulbs of one kind sold.

BELLE ALLIANCE. 12". Clear deep scarlet.....	Doz.	100	
	\$0 70	\$5 00	
CHRYSOLORA. 13". Large; pure golden yellow.....	70	5 00	
COLEUR DE CARDINAL. 13". Large; rich crimson; strong stem.....	80	6 00	
DUCHESS DE PARMA. 13". Showy orange-red.....	75	5 50	
FLAMINGO. 13". Large; beautiful pink and white..	75	5 50	
GENERAL DE WET. 16". Brightest and best orange. 2	00	15 00	
KEIZERSKROON. 16". Popular; red and yellow.....	95	7 00	
PINK BEAUTY. 13". Bright cherry-pink.....	1 35	9 00	
RISING SUN. 16". Tall; deep golden yellow.....	95	7 00	
WHITE HAWK. 13". White..	80	6 00	
SUPERFINE MIXTURE. From choice and distinct varieties of similar height and season. Top-size bulbs. 60 cts. per doz., \$3.50 per 100, \$32 per 1,000.			

COTTAGE TULIPS

(Single or May-flowering)

Cottage Tulips are fine for naturalizing in permanent borders. They come up and bloom year after year. When alternated with Single Earlys, the blooming season is prolonged. Height 18 inches. Bloom May 15. Originated in England among the English cottages.

Six or more bulbs of one variety at the dozen rate; 25 or more at the 100 rate. Not less than 6 of one kind sold.

ELLEN WILLMOTT. 25". Large; soft yellow.....	Doz.	100	
	\$0 70	\$4 50	
GESNERIANA LUTEA. 26". Sweet-scented; lemon-yellow.....	70	4 00	
GESNERIANA MAJOR (Spathulata). 20". Crimson-scarlet.....	70	4 00	
GLARE OF THE GARDEN. 21". Shapely; vivid scarlet....	75	5 00	
GOLDEN CROWN. 23". Yellow, with red edges.....	70	4 50	
GRENADE. 24". Brilliant orange-red; large.....	70	5 00	
INGLESOMBE PINK. 25". Soft rose, flushed salmon..	70	4 00	

INGLESOMBE SCARLET. 18". Large scarlet flowers.....	Doz.	100	
	\$0 65	\$4 00	
INGLESOMBE YELLOW (Yellow Darwins). 23". Large; globular yellow. Used with Darwin combinations	70	4 00	
JOHN RUSKIN. 18". Bronze-rose and yellow.....	75	5 50	
MOONLIGHT. 24". Oval-shaped; canary-yellow....	80	6 00	
ORANGE KING. 22". Deep orange, with delicate rose..	70	4 00	
PICOTEE (Maiden's Blush). 20". White, tipped rose...	70	4 00	
SUPERFINE MIXTURE. 60 cts. per doz., \$3.50 per 100, \$32 per 1,000.			

DOUBLE EARLY TULIPS

With few exceptions, Double Tulips should be used for forcing and bedding only. The flowers are very durable, and as they open slightly later than other Tulips, they prolong the flowering period. Stems 12 to 15 inches high. Bloom during late April and are remindful of peonies. Alternate rows of Single Early and Double Tulips are very effective.

Six or more of one variety at the dozen rate; 25 or more at the 100 rate. Not less than 6 of one kind sold.

COURONNE D'OR (Crown of Gold). 11". Yellow and orange.....	Doz.	100	
	\$0 70	\$5 00	
MURILLO. 13". Light pink..	70	4 50	
MYSTERY OF INDIA. 12". New. Terra-cotta with salmon.....	1 50	10 00	
SCHOONOORD. 13". Large; pure white.....	70	5 00	
TOURNESOL. 11". "Double Keizerskroon." Red and yellow.....	80	6 00	
SUPERFINE MIXTURE. 60 cts. per doz., \$3.50 per 100, \$32 per 1,000.			

DARWIN TULIPS

Darwin Tulips are highly recommended for massing in shrubbery and for providing contrasting colors in the spring garden. Groups of twenty-five to fifty bulbs of one color produce striking and beautiful effects. In form, the cupped blooms are entirely distinct from all other classes of Tulips; they are unusually large and borne on long stems. Bulbs may be forced if brought to the heat not earlier than January. Garden bloom, May 15.

Six or more bulbs of one variety at the dozen rate; 25 or more at the 100 rate. Not less than 6 of one kind sold.

BARON DE LA TONNAYE. 26". Rose, margined blush.....	Doz.	100	
	\$0 65	\$3 75	
BARTIGON. 26". Earliest; very large; fiery red.....	70	4 00	
CHANT DE CYGNE. 23". Large; light cherry-red....	2 75	20 00	
CLARA BUTT. 22". Delicate salmon-pink. Best.....	65	3 75	
DREAM. 24". Heliotrope, shaded violet.....	65	4 00	
EDMEE. 25". Cherry-rose, edged lighter.....	70	4 50	
FARNCOMBE SANDERS. 25". Immense; brilliant scarlet.	65	4 00	
JACOB MARIS. 26". Large; mahogany-red.....	2 20	16 00	
KING HAROLD. 24". Tall; crimson and black.....	65	4 00	

LA TULIPE NOIRE. 25". "The Black Tulip.".....	Doz.	100	
	\$0 80	\$6 00	
LOVELINESS. 23". Soft, rosy carmine.....	70	4 50	
MME. KRELAGE. 28". Bright lilac-rose.....	65	4 00	
PHILIPPE DE COMMES. 24". Deep purple.....	70	4 50	
PRIDE OF HAARLEM. 30". Tall; violet-rose.....	65	3 75	
REV. D'OMBRAIN. 26". Giant; darkest red.....	1 15	8 00	
REV. EWBANK. 23". Soft lavender-violet.....	65	3 75	
WHISTLER. 24". Maroon-crimson.....	70	4 50	
WHITE QUEEN. 24". Rose, fading to white.....	70	4 00	
WILLIAM COPLAND. 24". Large; lilac. Early.....	70	4 50	
YELLOW DARWIN. 23". (See Inglescombe Yellow.) One of the few popular-priced yellow Tulips which bloom and can be used with Darwins. True Darwin yellows are as scarce as true yellow peonies....	70	4 00	
ZULU. 27". Velvety purple-black.....	70	5 00	
SUPERFINE MIXTURE. 60 cts. per doz., \$3.50 per 100, \$32 per 1,000.			

BREEDER TULIPS

Breeder Tulips are the unbroken forms of the old florists' Tulips. The blooms strongly resemble the Darwins, excepting that they have an entirely different range of color, comprising artistic tones of bronze, terra-cotta, orange, and brown. Breeder Tulips are May-flowering, producing blooms of enormous size, and because they are vigorous growers are valuable for the garden. We have taken great pains to select only the choicest varieties, and recommend all of them to anyone who wishes something especially fine. In height and blooming season they are practically identical with Darwins and can well be combined with them.

Six or more bulbs of one variety at the dozen rate; 25 or more at the 100 rate. Not less than 6 of one kind sold.

BACCHUS. 33". Bluest of all Tulips. Giant.....	Doz.	100	
	\$1 75	\$12 00	
BRONZE KING. 28". Bronze-yellow.....	80	6 00	
CARDINAL MANNING. 26". Wine-red, flushed brown..	80	6 00	
DOM PEDRO. 30". Coffee-brown, edged golden brown	1 50	10 00	
GODET PARFAIT. 30". Deep purple, white base, blue halo.....	1 50	10 00	
GRAND MAITRE. 24". Dark purple.....	80	6 00	
JAUNE D'ŒUF. 24". Apricot, edged yellow.....	95	7 00	
LOUIS XIV. 28". Purple, bronze, and brown.....	1 75	12 00	
MEDEA. 18". Large; salmon-carmine.....	80	6 00	
MON TRESOR. 25". Distinct; carmine-red.....	80	6 00	
PROF. SCHOTEL. 23". Large; pointed petals; blue.....	80	6 00	
ROSE DES DAMES. 23". Rosy red, touched orange.....	80	6 00	
SUPERFINE MIXTURE. 60 cts. per doz., \$3.50 per 100, \$32 per 1,000.			

HOLLAND BULB ESSENTIALS, concluded if cut-flowers for winter are desired for the house.

6. Place orders early so as to be in line for early fall shipment, which is when bulbs arrive from Holland.

What to Do in Spring

1. Do not remove top cover until danger of spring frosts has passed.

2. Keep weeded and cultivated until blooms appear.

3. Cut all blooms before seed-pods appear. Do not cut foliage until wilted.

4. If desired, lift, clean, cure, and store bulbs in dry, cool place until fall.

All named Hyacinths, 30 cts. each, \$3 per doz., \$20 per 100

Single Red and Rose

GENERAL DE WET. Large; soft pink.
QUEEN OF THE PINKS. Bright rosy pink.
ROI DES BELGES. Dark red.

Single Light and Dark Blue

ENCHANTRESS. Porcelain-blue.
GRAND MAITRE. Compact; sky-blue.
KING OF THE BLUES. Late; rich dark blue.

Single Yellow

Yellow Hyacinth bulbs are small.
YELLOW HAMMER. Pure bright yellow.
KING OF THE YELLOWS. Deep yellow.



A field of Hyacinths in Holland. Bulbs of this quality (from Farr's) will bloom equally well in America

Hyacinths

Culture is similar to other bulbs. Plant 6 inches apart and cover with 4 inches soil. Setting the bulbs on a layer of sand improves the bloom. They are best in beds and other formal arrangements. A most popular indoor plant; anyone can handle them. Unexcelled for fragrance.

We specialize in the best grade Hyacinths. The stock for 1927 is of 18-19 centimeter circumference, second in size only to the very largest bulbs obtainable. *If the blooms produced are not of the largest you have ever seen, your money will be refunded.*

Single Pure White

LA GRANDESSE. Large; perfect pure white.
L'INNOCENCE. Fine; pure white.

Hyacinth Collections

12 bulbs in 4 colors.....\$3 00
24 bulbs in 4 colors.....5 00
48 bulbs in 4 colors.....9 00

To be filled with your selection of color, our selection of names from above list.

Hyacinths by Color—Special Prices

The above varieties, your selection of color, our selection of names, thus enabling us to use surplus at lower prices. 22 cts. each, \$2.20 per doz., \$16 per 100. Specify colors when ordering.

Bedding Hyacinths

Fifteen to 16 centimeter bulbs for bedding purposes, in Red, White, Pink, Blue, and Yellow. Your selection of color, \$1.75 per doz., \$12 per 100.

Daffodils and Narcissi

This year, our efforts to obtain the largest bulbs grown have been successful, and first-size bulbs comprise our Narcissi list. There are "cheaper" Narcissus prices, but not on top-size bulbs.

Numerals appearing after variety name, as 21", indicate height of bloom stem.

BARRI CONSPICUUS. 21".	Doz.	100
Short orange-scarlet cup, yellow petals.....	\$0 85	\$6 50
EMPEROR. 18". Popular; lasting; large; deep yellow.	1 75	12 00
EMPRESS. 18". Popular; yellow cup, white petals.	1 75	12 00
GOLDEN SPUR. 18". Early; deep yellow. Good foliage.	1 75	12 00
INCOMPARABILIS SIR WATKIN. 18". Orange-stained cup; sulphur petals; large	1 75	12 00
KING ALFRED. 20". "King of the Daffodils." Giant; golden yellow.....	3 00	25 00
ORANGE PHENIX. 15". Double; white; red and orange; rose-shaped.....	1 75	12 00
POETICUS ORNATUS. 15". Early; short yellow and scarlet cup, petals white...	1 50	10 00
VAN WAVEREN GIANT. 22". Largest of all Daffodils...	4 00	35 00
VON SION. 15". Double; golden yellow.....	1 50	10 00
MIXED NARCISSI. All types included.....	95	7 00

Paper White Narcissus

For indoor forcing in water 1 50 10 00

Crocuses

When the spring sun begins to warm the ground, the Crocuses quickly respond to the bright rays. Following the snow-drops, they are among the very earliest spring flowers, and are most effective when dotting the lawn without any fixed plan of arrangement. The bulbs can be strewn thickly over the surface and be set where they fall, merely lifting the sod with a knife or trowel, slipping the bulbs underneath and pressing the sod back into place.

KING OF THE WHITES. Snowy white; large blooms. 60 cts. per doz., \$3 per 100, \$25 per 1,000.

MAMMOTH YELLOW. Especially desirable for lawn planting. 65 cts. per doz., \$4 per 100, \$36 per 1,000.

MAXIMILIAN. New. Porcelain-blue. 60c. per doz., \$3 per 100, \$25 per 1,000.

ORNATUS. Fall-blooming Crocus. Blooms without watering or planting; simply lay on shelves, desks, tables, etc. Try 25 or a dozen. 75 cts. per doz., \$5 per 100, \$45 per 1,000.

PURPUREA GRANDIFLORA. Dark purple. 60 cts. per doz., \$3 per 100, \$25 per 1,000.

MIXED CROCUSES. All colors mixed, Top size. 60 cts. per doz., \$2 per 100, \$18 per 1,000.

Not less than 6 bulbs of any variety supplied.

BETTER PLANTS

Miscellaneous Bulbs

(For the Distinctive and Unusual)

The Federal Quarantine has been temporarily lifted on a number of old-time favorites for the spring bulb-garden. The most desirable varieties are here included.

CHIONODOXA (Glory-of-the-Snow). An almost necessary companion to the Crocuses and snowdrops. Easily naturalized and comes up each year. Dark blue flowers with white eye. 6 to 10 blooms on a stem 4 to 6 inches high. Splendid for borders and rockeries. 50c. per doz., \$2.50 per 100, \$22 per 1,000.

LILIUM CANDIDUM (Madonna Lily). Very fragrant, pure white, trumpet-shaped flowers, $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches long, borne horizontally, 6 to 25 in a head, on tall, erect, leafy stems 3 to 4 feet high, during late June and July. 50 cts. each; 5 or more at 45c. each; 25 or more at 35c. ea.

REGALE (*L. myriophyllum*). A magnificent Lily from western China, with very large, trumpet-shaped flowers of waxy white, shaded pink, tinged with canary-yellow at the base of the petals. Height 4 to 5 ft. Blooming-size bulbs, 75 cts. each; 5 or more at 60 cts. each; 25 at 50 cts. each.

LILY-OF-THE-VALLEY (*Convallaria majalis*). Strong clumps, 5 or more at 30 cts. each; 25 or more at 25 cts. each. Not less than 5 sold.

MUSCARI BOTRYOIDES, HEAVENLY BLUE. Dainty Sky-blue flowers. Lovely in masses. 50 cts. per doz., \$2.50 per 100, \$22 per 1,000.

SCILLA SIBIRICA. Pretty sprays of rich blue flowers. Suitable for naturalizing or indoor forcing. Culture the same as crocuses. 65 cts. per doz., \$4.50 per 100, \$40 per 1,000.

SNOWDROPS, SINGLE. The very first spring bloomers. Should be planted liberally. Large, white blooms. 50 cts. per doz., \$2.50 per 100, \$22 per 1,000.

SNOWDROPS, DOUBLE. Large, double, white blooms. 65 cts. per doz., \$4 per 100, \$35 per 1,000.

Return Postage Guaranteed by
FARR NURSERIES CO.
Weiser Park, Penna.

BETTER PLANTS—April-May, 1927
Dutch Bulb Edition

Weiser Park Bulb Collections

In keeping with economies and lowered overhead, effected at our new location, it is possible to offer the following collections at very low prices.

Coax spring into your 1928 garden with any or all of these collections. Make your garden a display spot for yourself and the community.

Collection A

12 Mixed Narcissi.....	\$0 95
12 Named Single Early Tulips.....	70
12 Named Darwin Tulips.....	70
12 Named Breeder Tulips.....	70
12 Named Cottage Tulips.....	70
12 Named Double Early Tulips.....	70
25 Mixed Crocuses.....	50
25 Snowdrops.....	88
6 Assorted Hyacinths.....	1 50
	\$7 33

The Complete Collection for \$5

Without Hyacinths for \$4
(Our selection of varieties listed in this issue of BETTER PLANTS.)

Collection B

18 Mixed Narcissi.....	\$1 25
18 Single Early Tulips in 3 vars....	1 05
18 Darwin Tulips in 3 varieties....	1 05
18 Breeder Tulips in 3 varieties....	1 05
18 Cottage Tulips in 3 varieties....	1 05
18 Double Early Tulips.....	1 05
50 Mixed Crocuses.....	1 00
10 Assorted Hyacinths.....	2 50
	\$10 00

The Complete Collection for \$7.50

Without Hyacinths for \$5
(Our selection of varieties listed in this issue of BETTER PLANTS.)

Instructions and Terms for Ordering

On all orders for Holland bulbs mailed to us before July 1, 1927, a discount of 10 per cent is allowed. An additional 2 per cent will be allowed on orders accompanied by cash.

QUANTITY RATES. Unless otherwise specified, less than 6 bulbs of one variety will not be supplied. The dozen rate is

New Location Permits Lower Prices
Prices in this list are reduced from 20 to 30 per cent because of our new location. The quality is the best obtainable, regardless of price—the same as we have imported from the same Holland growers since 1912. We can afford to make these prices low because:
1. Our new location, while on the State Highway, cost us less than one-fifth as much per acre as the old location. Land-charges and overhead are negligible.
2. Our new and larger office quarters (including eight rooms) is leased for ten years at a rental of \$15 per month. The old office was located on 205-foot lots worth \$70 per foot, entailing an overhead of more than \$1,000 per year.
3. Labor comes from neighboring farms, and is of unusual quality.
4. Post Office on nursery premises cuts handling costs.
5. Accumulated good will has reduced advertising cost. Increased demand permits better system and reduced handling costs.
We believe, in fact, that our prices are the lowest you will find in America this year. At least, we invite comparison.
These low prices, together with best quality and experienced service, should encourage your order. Why not order promptly and be in line for early shipment as soon as our importation arrives?
Don't forget that these prices are low and the quality high.
Farr Nurseries Co., Weiser Park, Penna.

Collection C

30 Mixed Narcissi.....	\$2 10
30 Single Early Tulips in 3 varieties 1 75	
30 Darwin Tulips in 3 varieties....	1 75
30 Breeder Tulips in 3 varieties....	1 75
30 Cottage Tulips in 3 varieties....	1 75
30 Double Early Tulips in 3 vars....	1 75
50 Mixed Crocuses.....	1 00
12 Assorted Hyacinths.....	3 00
	\$14 85

The Complete Collection for \$11

Without Hyacinths for \$7.50.
Double these quantities and varieties for \$20. Without Hyacinths, \$14.
(Our selection of varieties listed in this issue of BETTER PLANTS.)

Farr's "Wordsworth" Collection of Narcissi

"A host of golden daffodils
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze."

	Doz.
1. EMPRESS.....	\$1 75
2. EMPEROR.....	1 75
3. GOLDEN SPUR.....	1 75
4. VON SION.....	1 50
5. SIR WATKINS.....	1 75
6. POETICUS.....	1 50

The varieties include Single Large Trumpet, Single Medium, Double and Poet's Narcissi. The price per dozen is indicated, but as a collection we will sell

One dozen of each variety (72 bulbs, value \$10) for \$8, f. o. b. our nursery.
Half-dozen of each for \$4.25. Two dozen of each for \$15.

No early order discount on Collections.
Prices f. o. b. our station. A discount of 2 per cent is allowed for cash with order.

applicable on 6 or more bulbs of one variety; the 100 rate on 25 or more bulbs of one variety.

PRICES ARE F. O. B. OUR STATION. Shipments are best made by express. If parcel post is necessary, charges are billed at actual postage, plus 12 cts. to partly cover special packing details and service involved.